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February 13, 2003

**RECEIVED**

**FEB 13 2003**

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

**VIA HAND DELIVERY**

Marlene H. Dortch, Esquire  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
The Portals  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: Notification of Ex Parte Communication**  
**MB Docket Nos. 02-277, 01-235, 96-197, 01-317, and 00-244**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

This is to advise you, in accordance with Section 1.1206 of the FCC's rules, that on February 11, 2003, George Mahoney, General Counsel and Secretary of Media General, Inc., and I met with the following individuals from the Media Bureau to discuss Media General, Inc.'s interest in repeal of the newspaper/broadcast cross-ownership rule in all markets: Paul Gallant, Esquire; Royce Sherlock, Esquire; Mania Baghdadi, Esquire; Marcia Glauherman; Judith Herman; Roger Holberg, Esquire; and Debra Sabourin, Esquire.

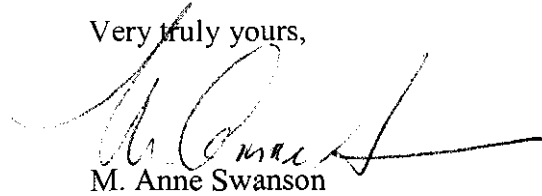
The discussion addressed Media General's reasons for repeal of the rule; the public interest benefits, such as the delivery of more and better local news, that result from convergence of newspaper and broadcast properties; Media General's experience that there is no "real world" connection between diversity of ownership and viewpoint; Media General's concern over any FCC attempt to craft a single rule to address ownership of various types of media outlets, including newspapers; Media General's view that including the newspaper/broadcast cross-ownership rule within the scope of such a unitary rule would violate Equal Protection precedents; and Media General's view that spectrum scarcity no longer exists.

Along with a copy of this letter, Media General is delivering to each of the individuals in yesterday's meeting a copy of the comments and reply comments that Media General filed in the above-referenced dockets on January 2, 2003, and February 3, 2003, respectively. Please note that the copy of reply comments that is being delivered reflects a minor correction in the fourth line of text on page 25, where the word "retention" has been changed to "repeal." We regret this minor error, which was not corrected in the copy of the reply comments filed on February 3, 2003.

Marlene H. Dortch, Esquire  
February 13, 2003  
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As required by section 1.1206(b), two copies of this letter are being submitted for each of the above-referenced dockets.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Anne Swanson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

M. Anne Swanson

cc (by hand-delivery):

Paul Gallant, Esquire  
Royce Sherlock, Esquire  
Mania Bagdadi, Esquire  
Ms. Marcia Glauberman  
Ms. Judith Herman  
Roger Holberg, Esquire  
Debra Sabourin, Esquire